

### **Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services**

## **DYRS** Mission

The mission of DYRS is to improve public safety and give court-involved youth the opportunity to become more productive citizens by building on the strengths of youth and their families in the least restrictive, most homelike environment consistent with public safety.

## **DYRS** Vision

DYRS will provide the nation's best continuum of care for court-involved youth and their families through a wide range of programs that emphasize individual strengths, personal accountability, public safety, skill development, family involvement and community support.



DC Department of Youth Rehabilitation Services



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# **DYRS** Guiding Principles

#### We Believe:

- Youth prefer the joy of accomplishment to failure and each youth is unique and can learn, re-learn and unlearn.
- All youth should be connected to caring adults, services, supports, and opportunities that enable them to contribute to the community and successfully transition into adult hood.
- In honoring diversity.
- All youth, families, staff and community should be valued, respected and have opportunities for growth and change.
- Youth, families and staff at all levels must be at the table and involved in decision-making; from youth/family team meetings to agency policies.
- In a robust continuum of care that is flexible, strengths based, family focused and results in youth being safely served in the least restrictive environment consistent with public safety.
- In creating environments that are safe, structured, stable and supportive for youth and staff.
- Staff at all levels should be responsive, respectful and work collaboratively with internal and external customers.
- Decisions should be informed by valid and reliable data.
- Everyone's job is to help youth develop to their fullest potential.

